

THE SHAKERITE

May 29, 2012 // Volume 83 // Issue 1

The Shaker High School reported that a juvenile female was touched in an unwanted manner by another student. A juvenile male was placed under arrest by Shaker Heights police as a result of that report.

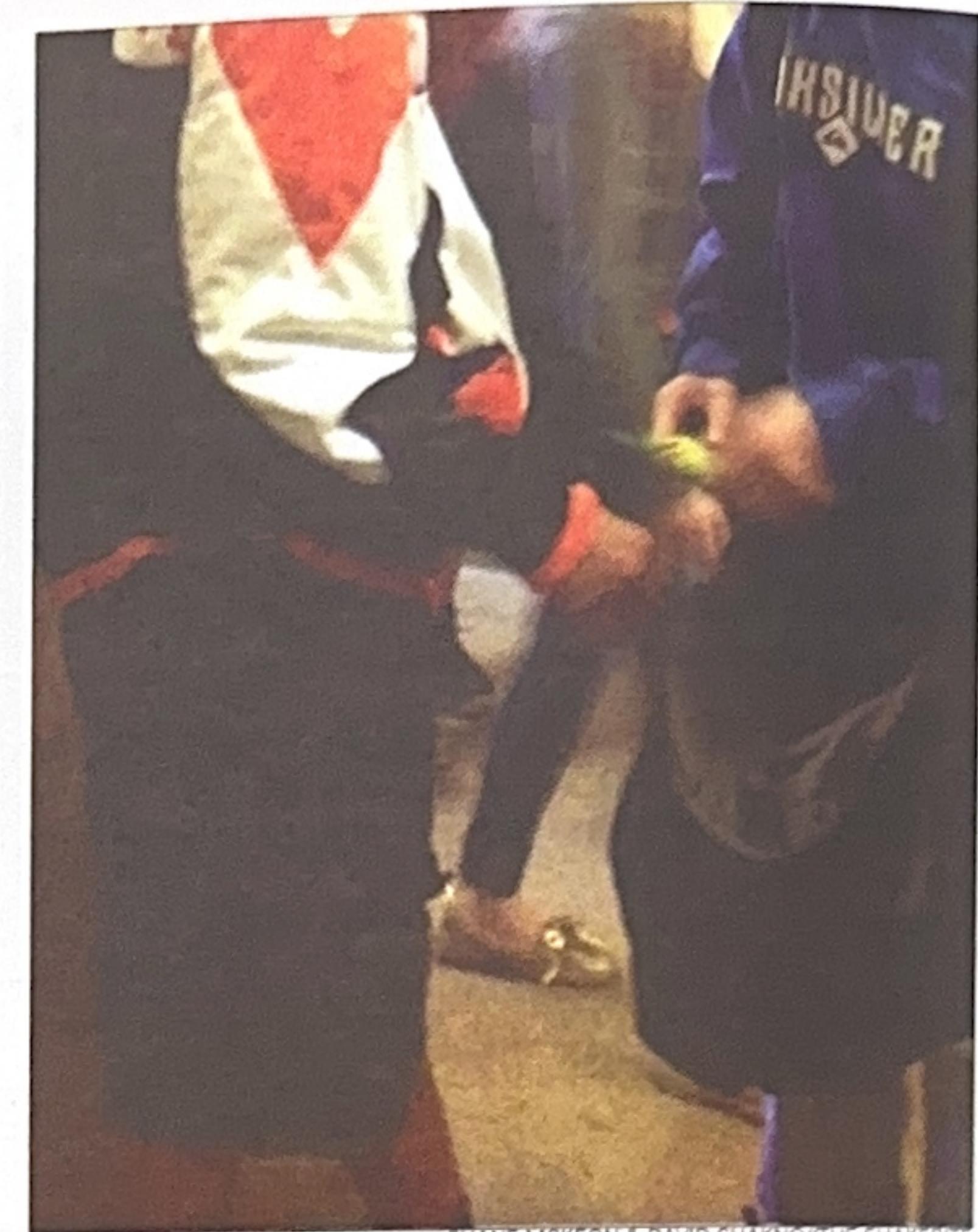
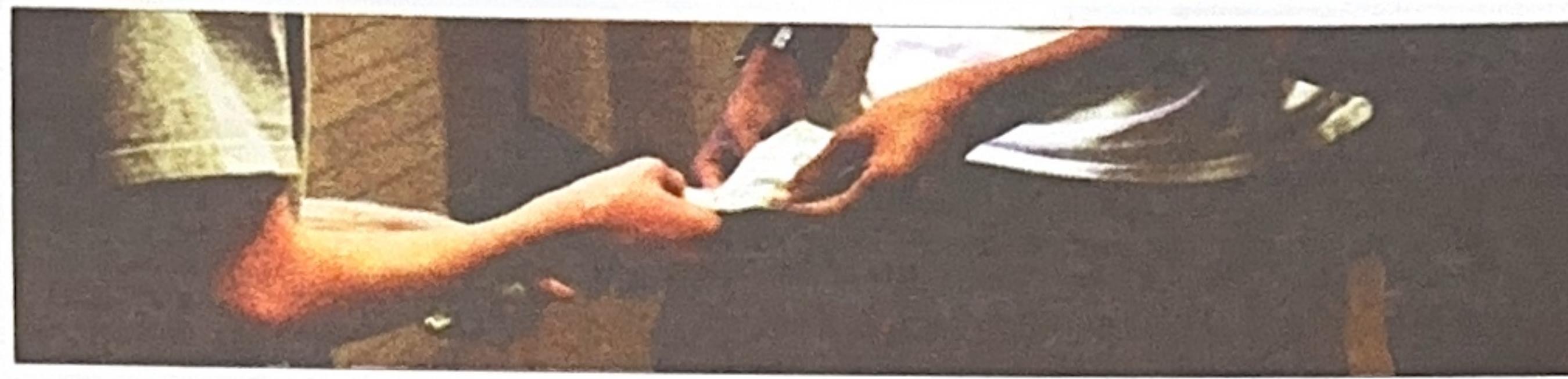
On Thursday, May 24 at 1:17 am, I responded to a report of criminal activity at 15911 Aldersyde Rd. in Shaker Heights.

On Friday, May 25, 2012 at approximately 1:15 pm, I responded to 15911 Aldersyde Rd. in Shaker Heights to reference an eleventh grade student who had been found in the school locker. Upon arrival, I spoke with the victim and school officials. The victim would be charged with assault and sexual battery. The victim is a juvenile and was subsequently released to his father.

It's Not OK
Unwanted Contact Proves
Prevalent in the High School

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Business is Sweet for Candy Sellers



SHANE MCKEON & DAVID SHAKNO/THE SHAKERITE

Sellers (above) hand candy to customers in between classes in the hallways. The transactions are just some of the many that occur during the four minutes in between classes everyday. Students line up waiting to purchase candy. One seller said he sells "all over the place." He also added, "I'm making anywhere from \$20-\$50 a day."

Students purchase candy, soda from peers for \$1 an item

DAVID SHAKNO STAFF REPORTER

While bake sales and sweets are being taken out of schools, a few Shaker students have seized a business opportunity.

"I'm making anywhere from \$20-50 a day," said one freshman who sells candy during school. In fact, he is one of approximately eight students who sell candy throughout the school every day.

The student, who agreed to be interviewed anonymously to protect his business interests, has sold candy and soda throughout the school day for \$1 per item since he was in seventh grade at the middle school.

The seller said he has lost track of how much he has made but estimates he earns at least \$1,000 per year.

Principal Michael Griffith said he was not aware that there are several students who currently sell candy at school, but that selling candy at the high school is "a violation of the district rules." Griffith added, "If we discover that they are [selling candy], we would tell them they can't do it."

Ohio law states that the "board of education . . . shall adopt and enforce nutrition standards governing the types of food and beverages that may be sold on the premises of its schools, and specifying the time and place each type of food or beverage may be sold."

This year's Shaker Heights Middle School student handbook states, "No personal gift items or candy may be sold in school."

According to Peggy Caldwell, district direc-

tor of communications, the rule has been in effect for more than 10 years. However, neither this statement nor any variation appears in the high school student handbook.

Middle school Assistant Principal Doug Myles said that he thinks the policy is valid.

"Any time it's brought to our attention that a student is selling something for personal gain, we don't allow that," Myles said. "I think that [selling candy] disrupts the educational environment and that's something that we need to be mindful of. It can contribute to tardiness . . . there's the possibility of theft . . . I think it's a good policy to have."

Another rule in the middle school handbook states that candy and gum, along with many electronic items, are not even permitted in the building. "These articles will be taken and returned at the discretion of the administration," it states.

Griffith said he doesn't think the administration needs to make a rule about candy being allowed in the high school. "I wouldn't necessarily have a rule saying 'no candy in the building is permitted.' I would say generally that's not enforceable," Griffith said. "And I'm not sure if that's worth enforcing if the parent or the family allowed a student to put a candy bar in their backpack."

"We're not interested in being the candy police."

Griffith also said that even if students sell candy for a fundraiser, it's not encouraged. "You can have a fundraiser that relates to candy, but it's not preferable." He later added, "Our intention is to promote good health and wellness."

The candy seller began his business two

years ago by selling gum. His business quickly grew, and he decided to add candy to his inventory.

Originally, the seller carried candy in a binder. Over time, he has expanded what he carries due to high interest from customers. When carrying a binder no longer sufficed, he added a pencil case, which he later scrapped for a small bag.

In addition to expanding his candy selection, the seller has gained daily customers. He said "mostly everyone" is a frequent customer. "I don't really have to ask people anymore [to buy candy]."

Freshman Thomas Harrison has noticed this particular seller's success. "It just blew up," said Harrison. "He's getting a couple zeros," he said, referring to how much the seller has made.

To avoid getting in trouble, the seller avoids promoting his business to the point at which he might be noticed by adults.

"I think it's kind of like a secret operation," freshman Isaiah Smart-Caldwell said.

Freshman Will Goodall said, "I know at first he wanted to do it [secretly], but with him carrying around duffel bags, I don't think it is anymore."

The seller said his parents accept the business but don't like it. "They think it's a good idea, but not necessarily a smart one," he said. He later added that his parents "sometimes worry" about him getting in trouble or hurt. They are also aware of how much he makes. His mother declined to comment.

Griffith said the administration needs to look into students selling candy. He said, "We need to investigate it."

"As long as I make a lot of money, I'm happy to do it."

CANDY SELLER

"Our intention is to promote good health and wellness"

MICHAEL GRIFFITH

Remote Control Prank Caused Confusion

When LCD projector remotes disappeared, lessons stalled

CLARA MEDALIE CAMPUS AND CITY EDITOR

French teacher Eileen Willis arrived at school April 25 ready to teach a prepared lesson on her SMART board, but when she tried to turn on the classroom's projector, her plans quickly fell apart.

Willis couldn't find her projector remote control.

Her first thought was, "Oh my gosh! Have I lost it?" She recalled being frantic when she realized that the remote was gone. Willis relies solely on her SMART board for her lessons and uses it in almost every aspect of her class.

Willis was not the only teacher throughout the school to find their projector remote missing. Teachers who planned to teach their lessons using their SMART boards or projectors arrived to school without a way to turn them on.

Senior Noah Rosenblatt thought of the idea to temporarily steal projector and SMART board remotes. Rosenblatt took the remotes and put them into a cafeteria vending machine, forcing teachers throughout the school have to buy their own remotes back.

Principal Michael Griffith approved this prank.

Rosenblatt said, "We got it approved and some of the teachers were upset, but we had someone go with us into the rooms [who had] a key to get in. We didn't unlock any desks and numbered each remote. It was organized and hilarious."

"Sorry, but not sorry."

It took 90 minutes to pull the prank. Rosenblatt and others involved in the prank took most of the remotes after school the day before. They stole about 70-100

of them.

Willis searched for her remote for 20 minutes before she figured out what had happened, and by that time, class had already started.

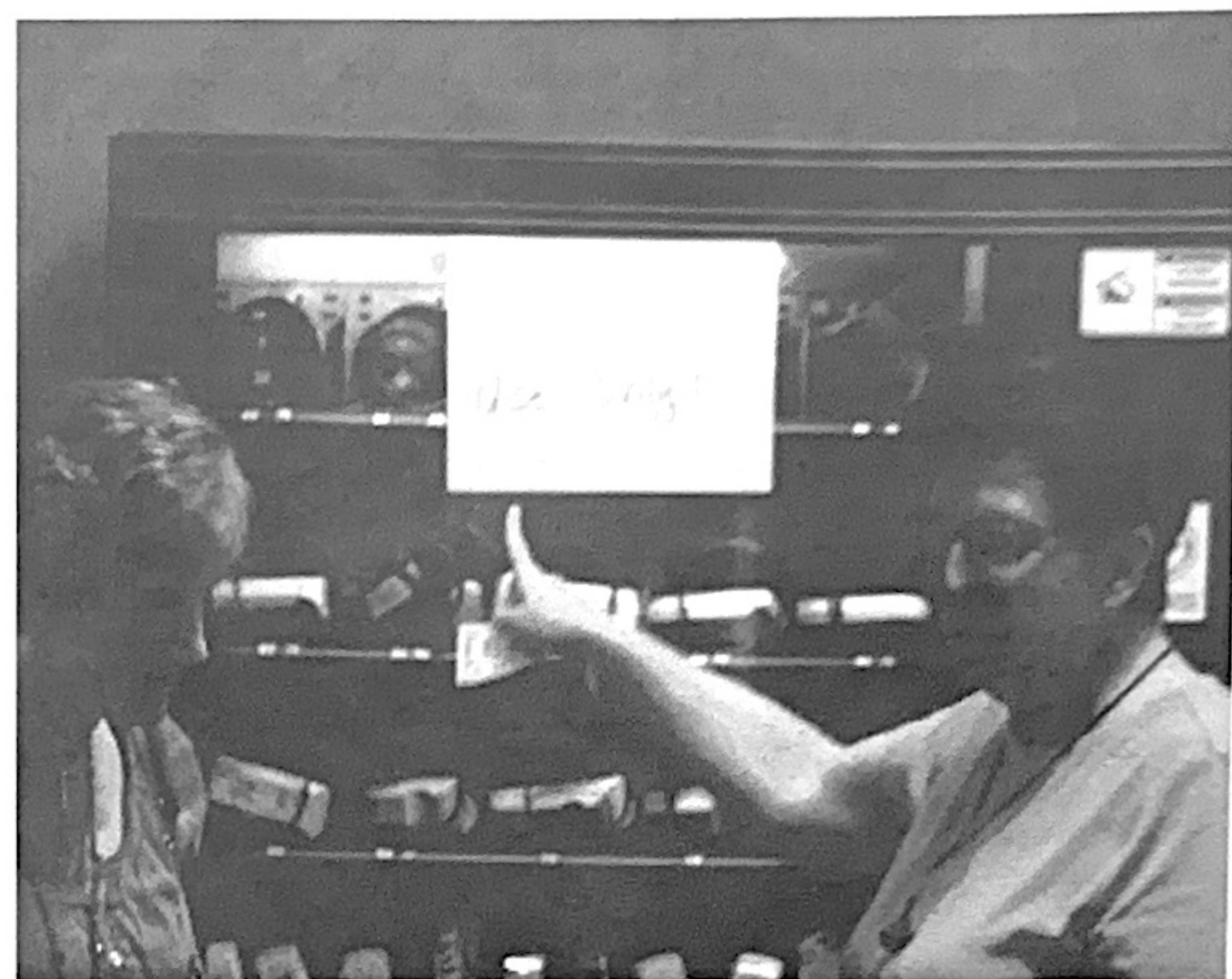
"I don't have time to waste my time," Willis said. She didn't get her remote back until eighth period.

Others, such as social studies teacher Elizabeth Plautz, thought the prank was more amusing than harmful. However, she did have one suggestion for the pranksters. "I think they should've put a sticker or note on the computer that said lost remote for sale and given the money to charity," Plautz said.

Despite the many cries of teachers, Griffith said that he only received two complaints. He approved the prank because he thought it would be "harmless and innocent."

"We don't want anything destructive," he said. Griffith said that he did not think that stealing the remote controls was going to be a problem.

According to Griffith, he did not exercise any more



JAHON CAIN

Teachers throughout the school were forced to buy back their remotes or have someone retrieve their remotes for them. French teacher Eileen Wilis did not have her remote returned to her until eighth period. "I rely on this (SMARTboard) every day," she said.

control over the pranks that were allowed this year than in other years. Griffith said that he believes pranks are an important part of senior bonding and unity. He thinks that most pranks are directed at teachers students have appreciated.

He said, "Ninety-nine percent of the time, [the teachers being pranked] are teachers that they like."

Pass or Fail? Underclassmen Rate This Year's Pranks



Remotes in Vending Machines

Senior Noah Rosenblatt organized an April 25 prank in which teachers' LCD projector remote controls were placed in a cafeteria vending machine.

Teachers had to "purchase" their remotes if they wished to use them that day.

"I thought it was funny, but I can see why teachers were upset. The seniors went through teachers' desks, which are private. I'd give it a C," sophomore Conor Matthews said.

The Sexy Sax Man

Senior Chris Gemerchak recreated a viral YouTube video, donning an outfit of black pants and suspenders, a mullet wig, aviators and no shirt. Gemerchak went on to play George Michael's "Careless Whisper" on his saxophone as he ran through the hallways of the school.

"I think it was one of the best senior pranks. He went everywhere in school and everyone thought it was funny. I'd give it an A+," freshman Grant Passel said.



CHRISTINA HARRIS



High School Musical

As seniors in the upper cafeteria formed a circle during sixth-period lunch, a group led by Allegra Verlezza acted out a scene from "High School Musical" with accompanying music. Sophomore Rob Douglass said, "I think it was a great idea, but it took them a long time to get organized. The seniors were really into it, but it seemed like most of the kids in the cafeteria didn't really know what was going on or what to expect. I'd give it a C+ overall."



Cliff and Clifford

German teacher Andrea Bradd, who dates a man named Cliff, entered Room 221 April 25 to find her walls completely covered with pictures of cliffs and Clifford the Big Red Dog.

The prank, orchestrated by seniors in Bradd's German IV class, evoked laughs from the victim.

Sophomore Maggie Nace said, "It was a good prank because everyone got it, and Frau thought it was funny. I'd give it an A."

COMPILED BY EVAN DUBAIL

Opinion 4



JACK REESE/THE SHAKERITE

Candy Sellers Take Advantage of Inconsistent Policy

A popular way to obtain sugary snacks at school is by purchasing them from students selling candy and soda throughout the school day. These students sell everything from Skittles and Snickers bars to Mountain Dew and Coca-Cola for \$1 an item.

What these candy-selling students may not realize is that they need to have a license from Cuyahoga County to legally sell candy. According to Ohio law, "To legally make retail sales in Ohio (which these students are making), you must: obtain the proper vendor's license from the local county auditor's office or the Ohio Department of Taxation (ODT), collect and remit the proper sales tax to the Ohio Department of Taxation, and file sales tax returns time, usually by the 23rd of the month following the reporting period."

Because they attempt to keep their business on the down low, these candy sellers are obviously concerned about getting in trouble, and therefore realize what they are doing is punishable, but the students aren't the only ones to blame.

Rite Idea

According to Ohio law, each school district's board of education is responsible for adopting and enforcing nutrition standards dictating the kinds of food and drinks that may be sold on school property and the place and time each type of food and drink may be sold. Making sure the school meets nutrition standards is the school's responsibility, not the students'.

If administrators are unable to fulfill their administrative duties, how can they expect students to follow rules? These candy-selling students violating Ohio law, but so is the administration by not clearly communicating or enforcing state-mandated district policy for food sales. Students and administrators need to be held to the same standards.

Teenagers don't always make the best decisions, but the administration's inconsistency in implementing rules makes matters worse. This candy selling has been going on for months, and the administration was just made aware of it.

There is a policy in the middle school handbook regarding the sale of candy in school. Additionally, Principal Michael Griffith also stated that selling candy in school is against district policy. Yet, there is no policy in the high school handbook about candy

sales in school.

The administration's inattention could lead to potentially more serious situations stemming from the candy sales. For example, the candy sellers could have their candy or money stolen. In a worst case scenario, the candy sellers could be assaulted. In addition, the candy sales are also extremely distracting. If sales take place in the halls, they can block traffic and prevent students from getting to class on time. Even worse, if sales are taking place during class, teachers and students in that class are losing valuable time.

The blame is not solely on one or two individuals in this situation. The candy sellers know what they are doing isn't right. Although they may not know that they are breaking the law, they are concerned about getting in trouble, so they know their actions are punishable.

At the same time, it is the administration's responsibility to be aware of the situation, step in and take the proper action.

Not intervening only encourages the candy selling students to continue breaking rules and thinking they can get away with it.

Teacher/Student Social Media Boundaries

Students build relationships with their high school teachers all the time, but they shouldn't use social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter to keep in touch.

When seniors graduate, temptations arise. Should you cut class? Steal your teachers' projector remote?

Glitter bomb the underclassmen?



Sarah Shaw

One temptation may be to friend a teacher on Facebook. However, problems come with social media relationships between students and teachers. In 2011, 69 cases of sexual predation involving New York City teachers and their students on Facebook were reported, almost five times the number from 2009. In the last two months alone, seven cases were reported.

Even in cases where teachers and students create no problems on Facebook, not every student wants their homework assignment tweeted to them. Teachers also don't need to see if students are playing Words with Friends instead of doing their homework. People are sometimes stalked through their social media profiles, and a teacher avidly following a student could be misconstrued as stalking.

In one case in Beech Grove, Indiana, a teacher stalked a student by hacking into his Facebook account, calling him repeatedly and messaging his friends. The student, Ryan Cloyd, said that his teacher "fell in love with him and created a blog to write about him."

Teachers' professional social media accounts are screened by potential and current employers to avoid similar cases. Richard Condon, a representative of the New York Board of Education, told the New York Times that "teachers should have no expectation of privacy."

This means that teachers who have professional accounts on social media websites made for educational purposes must submit the account information so that supervisors can monitor the sites for inappropriate behavior.

In order to prevent problems, teachers shouldn't be friending or following any of their students. However, some students who become close with their teachers during high school may wish to remain in contact with them 5-10 years later.

Once a student no longer has a teacher, and will certainly not have the teacher again, the problems that may come with teacher-student relationships are no longer a concern. As a general rule, you should be out of a teacher's school before trying to friend him or her.

Items Addressed in District Social Media Guidelines

Both New York City and Shaker schools have established guidelines for teachers' use of social media, and both acknowledge that the networks can be useful. District Director of Communications Peggy Caldwell said Shaker's guidelines are not regulations but advice on how to use the networks instructionally. The New York City guidelines specify that teachers may not communicate with students through personal social media accounts; the Shaker guidelines advise teachers not to friend students or parents on personal Facebook accounts.

New York City

	Monitored personal accounts	
	Teachers may not contact students through personal social media accounts	
	Appropriate language must be used	
	Monitored professional accounts	

Shaker Heights

	Monitored personal accounts
	Teachers may not contact students through personal social media accounts
	Appropriate language must be used
	Monitored professional accounts

Student or Staff, Everyone Plays a Role in Saving Senior Pranks

Wait, there's controversy and complaints about senior pranks? Let's go back in time and see what pranks used to be like.

In 1999, the Columbine shooting in April threatened pranks, and seniors were disappointed by smoke bombs, stink bombs and graffiti.

That's funny. Those pranks would never be approved today. Imagine past seniors' bored reactions to this year's prank of switching the upstairs and downstairs arrows, when in 2000 seniors rubbed Vaseline on the railings and in 2008 they plastered Playboy pictures on the stairwell. See a difference?

Sure, the Sexy Sax Man roamed halls and classrooms this year, but 2000 saw a cow on the third floor, crickets in the cafeteria and two stray pigs labeled one and three. These pranks weren't even considered admirable. In an article from a past issue of The Shakerite, former feature editor Jesse Griffiths called these pranks "less than perfect antics," complaining that they weren't original enough.

Even the better pranks this year are unmatched by those of years past. Found toothpaste in your Oreo cookies? Nothing compared to laxatives in your lunch. Are projector remotes in vending machines causing a nuisance? Try maneuvering the cups of water seniors placed in hallways in 2008.

I'm not commanding past pranks. I don't approve of the 2008 prank that resulted in dead mice in the

cafeteria. Or, in 2009, when there were dead goldfish in restroom sinks.

Pranks don't need to be destructive to be creative. The courtyard provides evidence of this. In 2009, a human chess game dominated the space. In 2010, it was paper airplanes. In 2011, strings from the windows formed a giant spider web. Next year, the courtyard renovation will be complete and will offer opportunities for new prank ideas. Let's hope seniors won't destroy the garden in an effort to be funny.

Destruction is one reason Principal Michael Griffith began approving pranks. In 2008, the front of the school was "trashed with toilet paper." Griffith considered it a "significant statement of disrespect."

Most destructive pranks are unoriginal anyway. Take stink bombs, for example. They've been set off in countless years past. "Don't show me a stink bomb," Griffith said. "Where is the intellect and the creativity in that?" He makes a good point.

Underclassmen interference also contributes to restrictions. "Some junior painted on a senior car, something disparaging, and then the seniors figure out who it is and they want to get back. And so you get groups of students across grades upsetting each other and now they're going at it in different ways," Griffith said. "We want to eliminate that component."

Freshmen, sophomores and juniors, you are not seniors, and you have no place playing pranks during Senior Week. The pranks you play only result in a stricter Senior Week for yourselves and future seniors.

Griffith assures that he is not trying to get rid of

pranks. "When we say there has been tightening, it's not to try and say that we don't want people to have fun and to enjoy this," he said. "It's been a great four-year experience, and we want students to leave feeling good about it. But we also want to eliminate . . . all that kind of stuff that happened, that's not in any way intelligent, humorous or a statement of endearment to a teacher."

But if complaints from staff, parents and students keep coming in about lesser pranks, the creativity and essence of pranks will eventually disappear into a cloud of regulations, restrictions and maybe even liability forms. Creative and harmless pranks will disappear in fear of consequences, such as losing Lawn Day or prohibition from going on Senior Project.

During my Senior Week, I don't want to see the same prank that I've already seen eight times. I don't want to see class wars or hear complaints about pranks that are meant to be mischievous. I don't want to make future seniors suffer because of my class's inability to be creative and harmless at the same time.

If freshmen, sophomores and juniors can respect that Senior Week is for seniors, if staff can be good-humored for one week out of the entire school year, and if seniors can devise imaginative pranks with an understanding that school is still going on, then senior pranks will actually be enjoyable. We'll actually see something clever and original.

Otherwise, the best we'll see during future Senior Weeks? Certainly not any missing tape dispensers. We wouldn't want any controversy, now would we?



Will Gyurgyik



Hostile Hallways

On the afternoon of March 23, a male student was arrested for unlawful restraint and sexual imposition after pushing a female student against a locker and kissing her. Similar acts occur in the halls of the high school daily but do not result in arrests or consequences.

Cover Story looked into this event and discovered it was one of three reported incidents of criminal sexual behavior at the high school this school year.



Joanna Levin

To each person sexual assault can be defined differently. Whether it's a forced hug in the hall or being thrown up against a locker, perception is everything.

Freshman Joanna Levin, who said she has witnessed nonconsensual encounters in the hallways, said she defines sexual assault broadly as "anything unwanted."

"Even a wink could be sexual assault, especially when there's an age difference," she said.

The Ohio Revised Code lists eight different sexual offenses that can be tried in court: rape, sexual battery, unlawful sexual conduct with a minor, gross sexual imposition (for example, by force), sexual imposition, solicitation for sex, spying on someone for sexual gratification, and public indecency.

The Shaker Heights High School code of conduct is vaguer when describing sexual assault. According to page 30 of the code, its policy on harassment, intimidation, bullying and hazing states, "Students shall not stalk or harass any members of the school staff or student body... For the purpose of this student code of con-

CLARA MEDALIE, BRIDGET COOK AND ANNA O'CONNELL
STAFF REPORTERS

SASHA RAE GRANT/THE SHAKERITE

duct, 'harass' includes, but is not limited to, intimidate, insult, annoy persistently or otherwise abuse, physically, orally, in writing, or through an electronic device including but not limited to a computer or cellular phone."

Levin gave an example of sexual assault that she witnessed at school earlier this year.

"It was around 6:30 [a.m.] and these three guys were talking to this girl and they kept coming up to her and saying stuff. Eventually it was almost a fight," Levin said. "It escalated; eventually one [of the males] threw her up against a locker."

Levin told the victim to get an administrator. She said that when the administrator arrived Levin told the assailant to turn himself in. "I had him stand next to me and I turned him in to a security guard," Levin said. Levin said the female student was eventually carried out of the school on a gurney.

The Friday before spring break, a case of sexual assault occurred at the high school in which the police and made an arrest. According to the police report, "An eleventh grader pushed a fellow student against the school locker... It was determined the student would be placed under arrest for unlawful restraint and sexual imposition." The alleged assailant declined to com-

ment.

A recent Shakerite survey of 121 students at the high school showed that approximately 10 percent of males and 20 percent of females have experienced unwanted contact on school grounds. Yet, only three cases of sexual assault have made it to the police this school year. If so many cases of assault have been happening, why are the police only getting involved in a small percentage?

According to Assistant Principal Frank Wessinger, "The police get involved when a clear violation of law has taken place or when a parent files a complaint." Students cannot file a complaint if they are younger than 18 because they are minors.

On dealing with alleged assaults, head of security Vic Ferrell said the high school has "no tolerance for sexual assault from any students."

"We're going to deal with anything that ends up in our offices," Ferrell said. "It can be any type of assault; we are going to take it seriously."

One method of monitoring these assaults is the use of the many security cameras throughout the school. Sophomore Lauren Jensen was involved in an incident last year that was caught on camera. She was walking to class when a boy ran up to her and grabbed her backpack. No harm was done to her but the next day a security guard took her down to the principal's office.

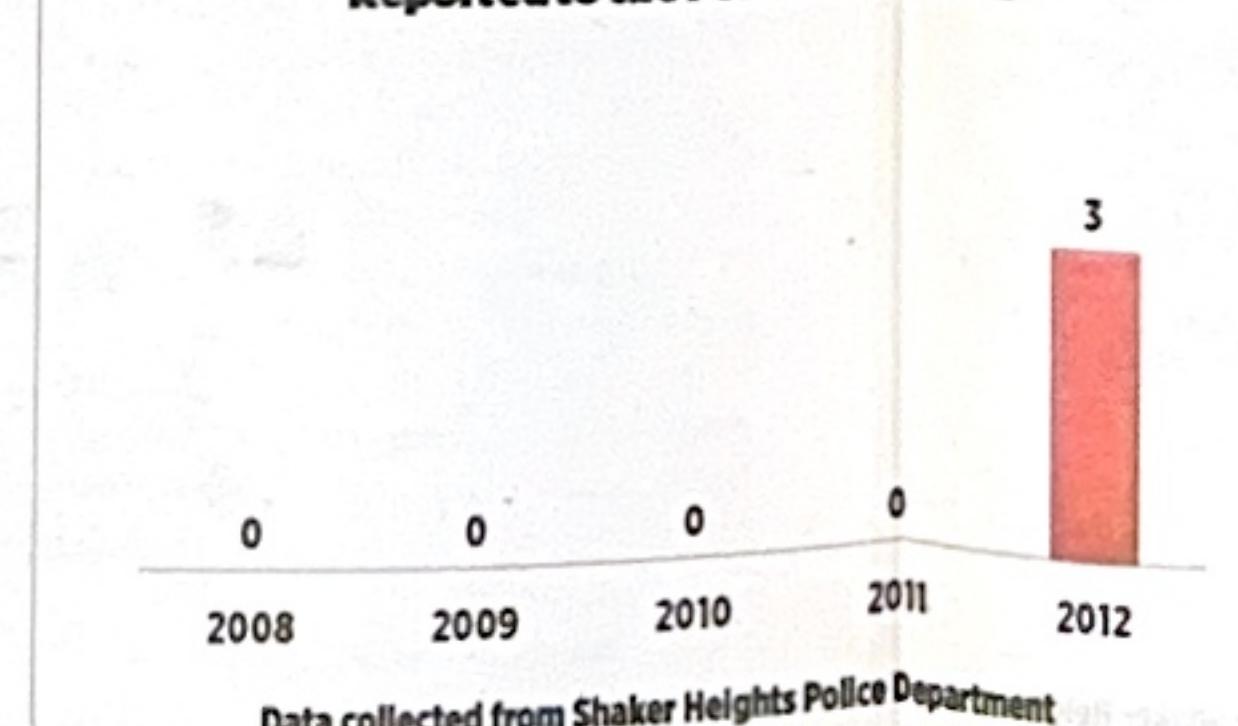
Jensen remembers being "so confused" and thinking she was in trouble but found out that security had caught the assault on camera in the hallway. Jensen was very surprised that just by looking at the camera, security had tracked her down. The reason administrators wanted to talk to her, though, was that five minutes before Jensen's backpack was pulled, the same boy had sexually assaulted another girl by grabbing her chest. Security wanted to make sure Jensen had not been assaulted.

Knowing when the line is crossed

It's not unusual to see kids being "touchy-feely" with each other at school, whether they're in a relationship or just fooling around. The challenge is the distinction between when touching is appropriate or if it borders on sexual assault.

In a Shakerite survey of 121 students, 13 percent reported receiving unwanted intimate contact from another person. Health teacher

Sexual Assaults at the High School Reported to the Police 2008-2012



Hubert McIntyre has ideas about what teachers and students can do if they see sexual behavior in the halls that looks like it may be unwanted.

McIntyre explained what he thinks is not OK in terms of affection. "The line has been crossed when the violation is made known and the person ignores it," McIntyre said.

McIntyre said he often sees kids in the hallway displaying affection. The hard part is knowing whether or not the incident is consensual. Teenagers want to display their relationships at school, which can be appropriate at the right time, but at other times the affection may not be welcomed.

McIntyre explained what he does as a teacher when he witnesses something that doesn't seem consensual.

"First of all, I think it's really important to pull the student to the side and ask them how they felt about what I observed. It's a teachable moment," McIntyre said.

McIntyre also teaches how to fend off unwelcomed sexual contact. His health curriculum includes a self-defense unit in which he instructs his students what to do if they find themselves in a bad situation. The most important thing to do, he stressed, is to say "No."

"Silence gives consent. It's important for you to say something if you feel uncomfortable," he said.

The health curriculum lays out possible definitions for sexual assault. "We start off with what constitutes dating violence," McIntyre said. "Harassment can be physical or verbal. When the person says, 'No' and they continue, that's assault."

As far as what to do when a physical situation escalates to violence, McIntyre emphasized the most effective way to prevent sexual assault is to be aware of other people's intentions.

"The thing that I always want people to understand is that avoidance is number one," McIntyre said. "There are always warnings when something could go wrong." He stressed to look for red flags when alone with a person who could possibly turn violent. McIntyre also explained that if absolutely necessary, a quick kick in the shin or other area could help enable escape.

McIntyre also said one of the best tools against a dangerous situation is calling out for help. "People aren't always good about coming

to help," said McIntyre. "Make sure to use your voice and let others know you need help. At that point, get to a safe place if possible. Any classroom in the school with a teacher in it would be an example of that."

Science teacher Jonathan Rice believes teachers should stop affection in the hallway that doesn't look right.

"We have a responsibility to the safety of our students," Rice said. In his five years at the high school, he hasn't seen many public displays of affection that looked suspicious in the hallways. "That doesn't mean it doesn't happen," Rice added. "Students could stop what they're doing when they see me coming just because I'm a teacher."

Rice doesn't tolerate PDA among his students. "I have a strict no-touching rule in my class. Just the other day I told students to air-hug instead of hugging," Rice said.

Latin teacher Nora Murphy believes in stepping between students when necessary.

"If a girl looked uncomfortable, I would verbally and physically attempt to intervene," Murphy said. "If I'm in proximity, I will say something. It really depends on how the girl responds, because it can be wanted or unwanted."

Murphy also said that she would be even more likely to interfere if she personally knew the students involved.

Murphy emphasized the importance of reporting incidents in the hallways and elsewhere. "Don't turn a blind eye if you think someone's being mistreated," Murphy said.

Teachers aren't the only ones who can do something if they see something going wrong at school. Freshman Joanna Levin witnessed a girl being physically harassed at the beginning of the school year and called a security guard for help.

Levin stood with the girl until help arrived and told the alleged assailant to turn himself in. "It was scary especially because it was hard to tell if it was unwanted or not," Levin said.

"After, [the victim and I] talked, and she told me she really did not want it."

Levin's experience reinforces the importance of McIntyre's advice to speak up. He emphasized students and teachers play a key role in preventing this type of assault, adding that the bottom line is, "No one has a right to touch you when you don't want to be touched."

All 3 Sexual Assaults Reported to Police Since 2008 Occurred Within Past 6 Months

IZZI NEJEDLIK STAFF REPORTER

In the past five years at Shaker Heights High School, three incidents involving sexual assault have been reported to the Shaker Heights Police. All three of these cases have occurred during the current school year.

The first case occurred Nov. 3, 2011 at 8 a.m. and was deemed "Gross Sexual Imposition- force." The incident report stated, "The Shaker High School reported that a juvenile female was touched in an unwanted manner by another student. A juvenile male was placed under arrest by Shaker Heights police personnel as a result of that report."

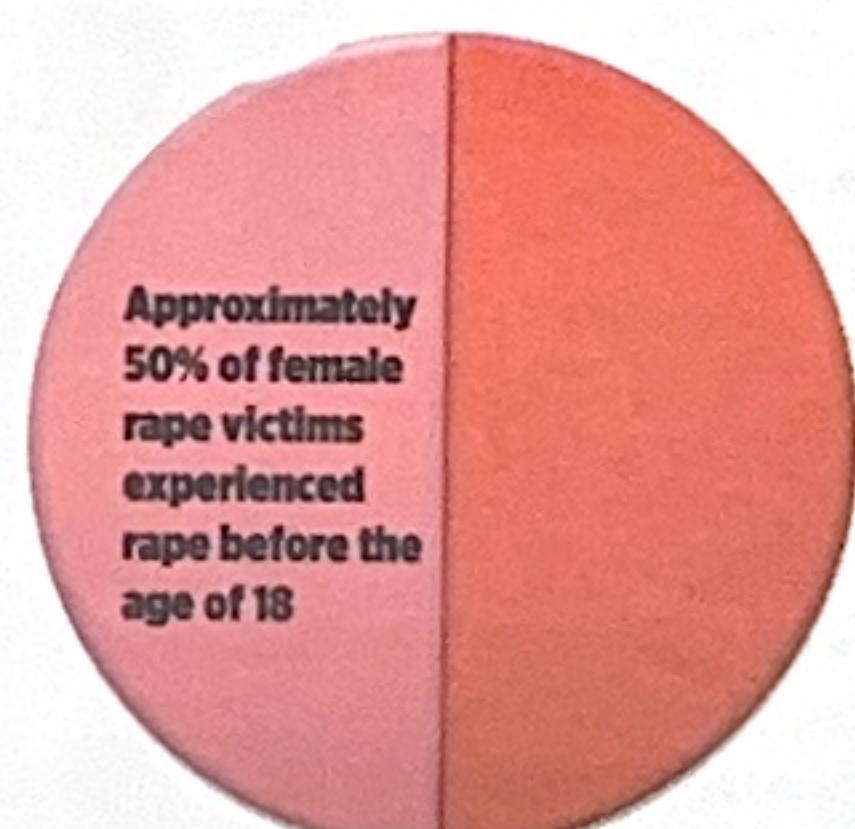
Neither the victim nor the alleged assailant could be reached for comment.

The report for the second case described the incident as a rape. It was reported to police March 8, 2012. The incident report stated that the crime occurred from Dec. 1 to Dec. 20, 2011. The report offers no further information about the victim, the alleged assailant or circumstances surrounding the event.

In a phone interview, Shaker Heights Chief Prosecutor C. Randolph Keller refused to comment further on the case, because like the other two, it remains an open investigation.

The most recent case was reported March 23, 2012 at 4:50 p.m. The incident occurred that day around 4:15 p.m. A junior male was arrested for sexual imposition and unlawful restraint.

The officer's incident report stated, "I responded to 1591 Aldersyde Rd. (Shaker Heights High School) in reference an eleventh grader pushed a fellow student against the school locker. Upon my arrival, I met with the victim and school administration. It was determined the student would be placed under arrest from unlawful restraint and sexual imposition. The student was transported to Shaker Heights Juvenile Bureau and processed. The student was subsequently turned over to his father."



DESIGN BY ALLIE HARRIS AND KATHLEEN KALAFATIS COVER STORY EDITORS

Shaker Rapper's Road to the Top

Marquis 'Lil' Marv' Frazier follows in fellow former Shaker student Kid Cudi's footsteps as a rapper

SHANE MCKEON INVESTIGATIONS EDITOR

"Yeah, Kid Cudi went to my school!" We've all done it.

We all love boasting the fact that our high school turned out one of the most talented rappers of the 21st century, even though he only attended Shaker his freshman and sophomore years. He graduated from Solon High School in 2002.

Despite the fame, Kid Cudi seems to have stayed true to Cleveland. Just last month he played a free concert at the Q for the Rock Hall induction.

Marquis "Lil' Marv" Frazier, a former Shaker student, hopes to follow in Kid Cudi's footsteps.

"I started [rapping] in eighth grade," said Frazier. "Doing stuff in the basement, 'Swagger Season,' you know."

"Swagger Season" is Lil' Marv's first mix tape, released in 2009. His second and most recent tape, "The Road to the Top," was released in 2010, and continued the chill production and lyrics that "Swagger Season" featured.

"The Road to the Top" tells the story of Lil'

Marv's life in Cleveland through feel-good beats and flow similar to Mac Miller and Wiz Khalifa, with flashes of Kid Cudi and a slight influence of hip-hop pioneers such as Notorious B.I.G. and Nas.

In the tape's first track, Lil' Marv shows off his Shaker roots: "I hit the seventh grade, I met my bro E; I'm talking Mr. Sears that was real history!"

Lil Marv's "bro E" is senior Ethan Holmes, whom he met in seventh grade in Mike Sears' history class at the middle school. The two bonded over skateboarding and music, and Holmes has since become Lil Marv's manager.

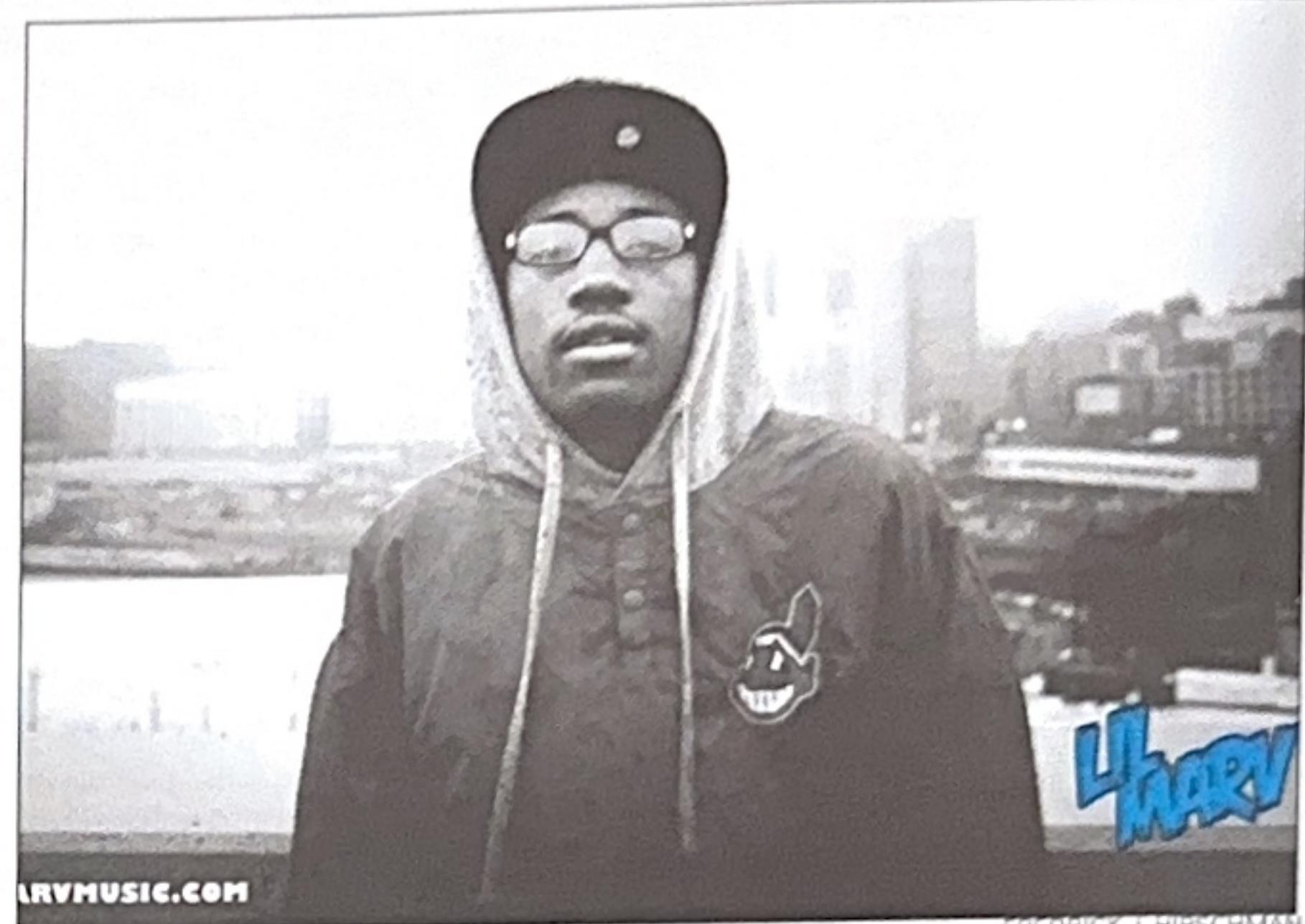
But you don't have to be a student of Mr. Sears to enjoy this tape; most of the songs have to do with partying, smoking and otherwise enjoying life as a Cleveland kid.

"My goal is really just to make good music for people," said Frazier. "Uplift people, have fun, enjoy life."

Senior Elijah "E-Wonder" Carter-Callahan produced a track, titled "Lifetime," for Lil' Marv's most recent tape. "I've known [Frazier] since, like, seventh grade, and he's a really chill person," Carter-Callahan said. "But we really didn't talk until like last year, and that's when we linked up and started working together."

Since dropping "The Road to the Top", Lil' Marv has opened up for rappers such as Hoodie Allen and XV at Cleveland Heights' Grog Shop, as well as receiving recognition from Wiz Khalifa and Mac Miller.

In addition to working with Shaker producers, Lil' Marv made it clear that he wanted to



Former Shaker student Lil' Marv poses for a picture in front of the Cleveland skyline. Lil' Marv will release his newest project, "Goin' Up In Smoke," a collaboration with Uptowne Buddah's Vance Jason, for free download in late May to early June.

stay true to his hood. "I want to make music for the Shaker kids, for those nights where I didn't want to do my homework."

And all these years later, the teacher who inspired Frazier still remembers him. "I always tell my students that we try to keep it real in Room 316," Sears wrote in an email. "I'm touched that Marquis took that to heart and mentioned it in his song."

Jokingly, Sears added, "If it becomes a big hit, maybe he'll offer me a small percentage of the royalties."

"My goal is really just to make good music for people, uplift people, have fun, enjoy life."

LIL' MARV



FREDRICK J. HIRSCHMAN

Senior Duo Help Kick-It For Charity

Visit to nail salon leads students to fulfill requirements while raising money for cancer research

BRIDGET COOK SPOTLIGHT EDITOR

Two years ago, Seniors Claire Levin and Nora O'Connell brought Kick-It, a charity kick ball game to raise money for cancer patients, to the high school. Last year's event raised more than \$4,000 and generated enthusiasm among students and teachers alike. This year's game was even more successful, attracting 16 teams, 234 participants, and raising approximately \$4,600, an amount still growing with fundraising continuing past the game itself.

All the money raised through Kick-It goes directly to helping cancer patients, mainly children, and comes from funds raised through donations, T-shirt sales and a \$5 per person entrance fee. Levin and O'Connell used Kick-It for school requirements and senior project. In their final weeks of leading the organization, O'Connell and Levin talk about how Kick-It has affected their lives.

Want to know more?
Visit www.kick-it.org/events/shaker-heights-high-school

What inspired you to get involved in Kick-It?
CL: "My sophomore year I went to prom, and I was getting my nails done and this woman was sitting next to me. She told me about her foundation, Flashes of Hope, which Kick-It branches off of. We just got to talking, she gave me her card, and the rest is history!"

NO: "I was inspired mostly by Claire telling me what this woman did. I thought this organization was really cool. Also for IB we had to have a specific number of community service hours for CAS. Kick-It made it seem like it wasn't a requirement because I really had fun doing it."

Is there anyone in your life with cancer who inspired you to do something about it?



DANIEL LEVIN/FACEBOOK

Seniors Nora O'Connell and Claire Levin pose in the North Gym at last year's Kick-It game. In two years the event has raised nearly \$9,000 for cancer research. The girls hope the game continues after their graduation.

NO: "My mom battled Breast Cancer, so that made me feel really good about doing it. In the Kick-It office, Flashes of Hope, they have pictures of little kids; their faces were all the inspiration to make us really care. It's one thing to say we want to raise this much, but when you put a face behind it, it means that much more."

How has Kick-It affected your high school career?

NO: "It really united all four grades, teachers, staff, the whole student body, for one single purpose. I was proud to have been a part of bringing that to our school. Also by doing Kick-It I had to get over my fear of public speaking and putting myself out there. Aside from that it gave me a bigger purpose in school than just reading books, taking tests, and graduating."

CL: "It made every day more meaningful,

made me proud to go to Shaker, and connected me to other students. Kick-It made me realize every day people can make a difference. It opened my eyes to what a future career could be like. The ladies in the Kick-It office are the happiest, most hilarious women I've ever met and it made me realize you could have fun with your career."

Do you plan on having someone continue what you've started next year?

NO: "Yes. We think it's very important for someone to carry on the Kick It legacy at Shaker. We have people sort of shadowing us this year to learn the ropes. Hopefully we can come back to visit in 10 years and it will still be going on."

CL: "The most important thing for us is finding people with the same passion that we have. Kick-It changed us, so it's exciting to see how it will change other people."

Top 5

Do you take C-town for granted?

Well, don't! Before you bolt for hipper homes in far-away states, be sure to cement your Cleveland cred by visiting Spotlight's picks for a proper C-town summer.

1. West Side Market

An indoor and outdoor market perfect for buying fresh food, the West Side Market brings together local vendors, ethnic variety and unique flavors.

2. Mentor Headlands

The largest beach in Ohio, the Mentor Headlands offer swimming, fishing, boating, picnicking, trails and a memorable senior beach day every June.

3. Progressive Field

Tribe tickets start at just \$8. An afternoon at an Indians game is accessible, affordable and the atmosphere is electric regardless of the scoreboard.

4. Coventry

This unique street features eccentric places to shop, eat, see live music or just hang out. Highlights include Tommy's, Big Fun and the Grog Shop.

5. The Feast of the Assumption

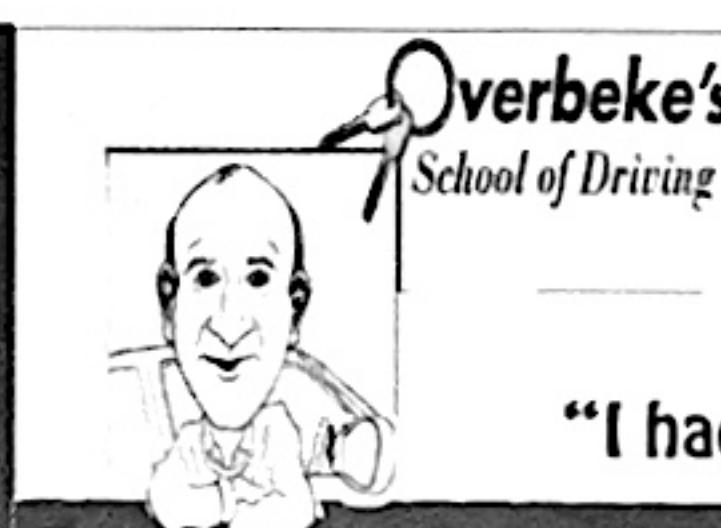
Taking place in Little Italy Aug. 15-18, the Feast boasts carnival games, cannoli, fireworks, casino games and family rides.

Bridget Cook and Anna O'Connell

Shaker Heights Teachers' Association



Professionals Dedicated To Educating
Shaker's Youth



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Register by phone or on line
www.overbekedriving.com

"The information sticks because you make it interesting and fun"

"He actually taught us a lot about driving!"

"I had a lot of fun and learned at the same time!"

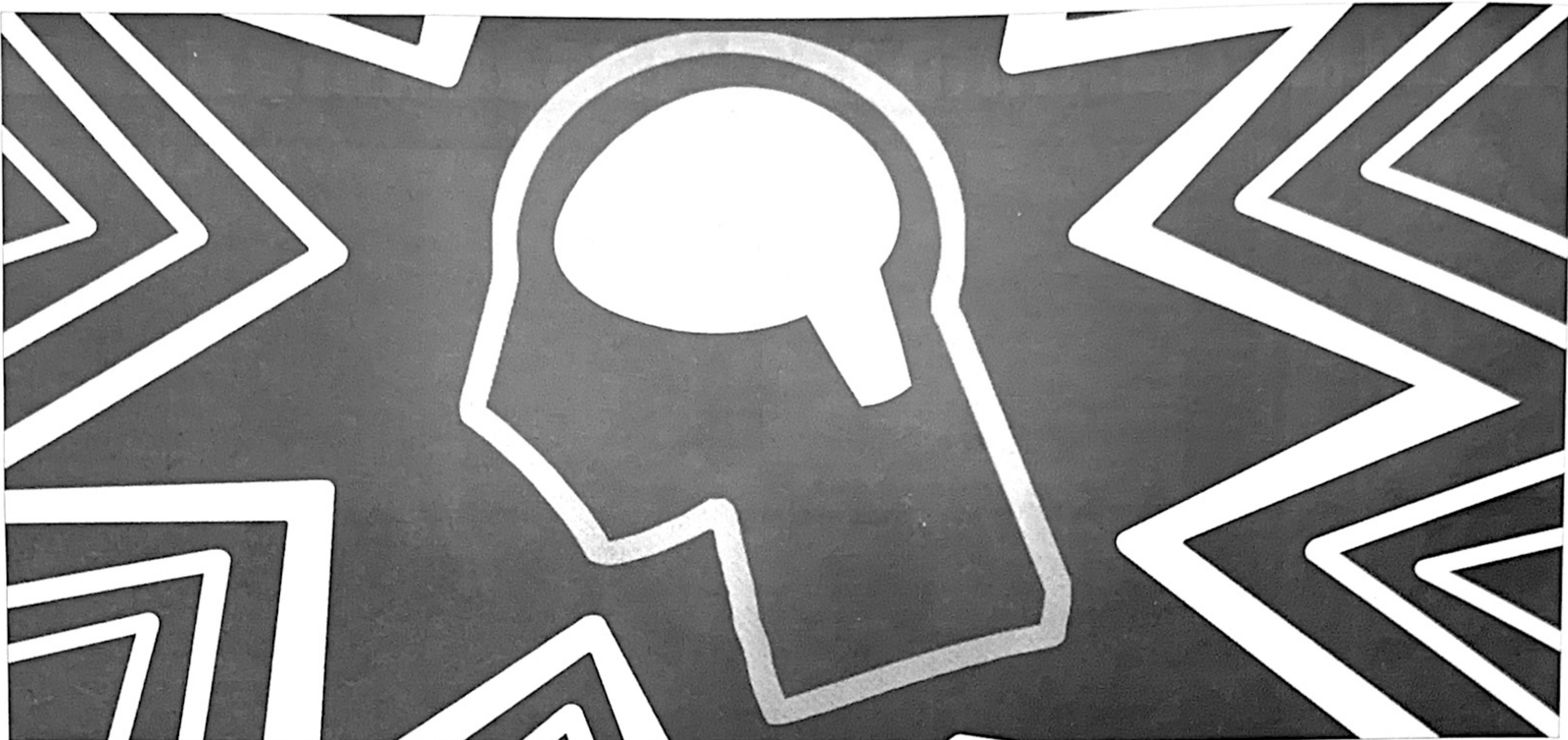
"Driving school is cool."

"This course was amazing!"

"I looked forward to coming to class!"

"Mr. Overbeke, this class was A-OK!"

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SASHA RAE-GRAHAM//THE SHAKERITE

NFL Great Seau's Suicide Elevates Concussion Concern

Evidence of lasting damage mounts, and players, parents face tough choices

ALEX SMITH RAIDERZONE EDITOR

After sophomore lacrosse player John Williams sustained a concussion during a game April 10, his mother, Megan, had an important job to do.

"I had to keep checking up on him, to make sure he was alive," she said.

When he talks about the injury, John's description is less dramatic. But he admits it was frightening. "It was all new to us," he said. "We just had to follow what the doctor said, but it was a scary experience."

All athletes sustain their share of injuries; they're just a part of the game. Lately, however, concussions and the long-term damage they pose are capturing greater attention. With the recent death of NFL veteran Junior Seau, the question is renewed—what are the side effects of playing football, rugby, hockey and other contact sports in which head injuries are common?

Investigators believe that Seau was experiencing chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), a condition that has been diagnosed in many former NFL players and that has been implicated in the suicides of several NFL veterans. The condition arises from the accumulation of concussions and other hits to the head. Many players believe that the NFL has been hiding the true effects of the disease and what really can happen if you play through a concussion.

Kaiser Permanente neurologist Karla Madalin said, "The definition of a sports concussion is a prolonged transient alteration in neuronal function caused by a blow to the athlete's head and/or body with transmission of force to the head, resulting in rotational and/or translational movement of the head resulting in neurological symptoms that resolve sequentially over time."

This means that a concussion occurs when a person is hit in the head or the body with enough force to affect brain function. The neurological symptoms of a concussion eventually fade, but receiving multiple concussions may result in permanent brain damage.

Concussions have many symptoms. Some of the more critical include disorientation, confusion, difficulty concentrating, memory loss and depression. According to a study by the Boston University Health Center, concussions can lead to the development of nerve diseases such as Lou Gehrig's disease and CTE later in a player's life, both of which can be fatal.

Asked whether concussions can have a long-term effect on a player's brain, Madalin replied, "Absolutely. We know that cumulative damage to a player's brain can cause permanent damage, including CTE."

Currently, more than 1,500 former NFL players are suing the NFL claiming that the league hid the dangers of concussions and did not do enough to protect players from sustaining them. Many players suffering from symptoms of CTE believe that they were misled, and that the NFL protocol was to return players to the very game in which they had suffered their injury.

When asked about the education of Shaker players on concussions, sophomore football player Darien Ferguson said, "I think there should be more information about [concussions] during the preseason to tell players what the signs of a concussion are." Ferguson said that he played half of a season with a concussion without even knowing it. He believes that players have enough protection but not enough awareness of the dangers of the sport.

Concussions are not only dangerous to football players, as many assume. The number of concussions in high school girls' soccer is soaring. According to MSNBC, girls have weaker necks than boys, making hits to the head more consequential. According to the American Journal of Sports Medicine, female soccer players are experiencing nearly twice as many concussions as their male counterparts. A 2007 study

published in the Journal of Athletic Training found that female athletes suffer an average of 29,000 concussions a year, while male athletes suffer an average of 21,000.

Lacrosse, hockey and rugby are also major offenders in terms of head injury.

The OHSAA's policy on concussions states that "any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared with written authorization by an appropriate health care professional."

Athletic director Don Readance said that athletes must help to enforce the OHSAA's policy. "You can be concussed without taking a direct blow to the head," Readance said. "We can't always visibly see. We have to rely on kids telling us by sharing their symptoms... If there's something wrong, you have to share that."

Rugby coach Geoffrey Gainford's policy on concussions is that a player cannot return to play until he has been cleared by his parents and a doctor. He does not believe that rugby players have enough protection, despite rules that forbid head-to-head contact. For rugby players, helmets and mouth guards are not mandated. Gainford said that Shaker's rugby team sees four to five concussions a year.

With these new discoveries about concussions, parents are becoming more hesitant about allowing their children to participate in contact sports. Many former NFL players, such as quarterback Kurt Warner, won't let their kids play football due to the detrimental effects of head injuries. Warner sustained five concussions during his 12-year career.

"I don't think there's ever going to be sufficient head protection, whether it's football or rugby," said junior rugby player Leo Katz, who has suffered a concussion. "When you have two guys running full speed at each other, trying to take the other out, there's always going to be consequences. It's part of the game. Everyone takes a risk."

Culture of Violence and Brutality in Football Needs to Change

ARI ROSS RAIDERZONE EDITOR

Greg Williams is every parent's nightmare.

If you haven't heard it yet, I'll just tell you it's scary. I'm talking about the recording of Greg Williams' speech to his defense before the NFC divisional playoffs last fall.

On the audiotape, Williams, former New Orleans Saints defensive coordinator, using expressions such as "kill the head and the body will die," tells Saints players that they should injure the 49ers. According to the NFL, Greg Williams and the Saints defense placed cash bounties on opposing players for years.

The NFL's crackdown on Williams and the Saints indicates that the league finally acknowledges that football's increasing brutality is unsustainable. The long-term effects of concussions and collisions are damaging players' brains and shortening their lives.

With more than 1,500 former NFL players suing the league over concussions, and the recent suicide of Junior Seau, a 19-year linebacker, the issue can no longer be ignored.

Scientists think that even small hits slowly add up, damaging the brain. Retired football players are contracting brain diseases at a rate 19 times higher than ordinary men according to an NFL study. Already 20 players have died from progressive brain diseases.

It's time for a change. No longer can we send fathers, husbands and sons onto the



Ari Ross



KELLY HOLMES/THE SHAKERITE

Defensive back Roamelle Bell collides head on with a Solon opponent during a game Aug. 27. Such helmet-to-helmet hits are raising concerns about the long-term effects of concussions on the mental and physical health of football players.

field knowing that every hit may shorten their lives. As the truth about football head injuries emerges, how do you think parents feel today when they see their sons lying on the ground after a brutal hit?

Change is needed. Better protection from concussions and head injuries is needed, such as stricter rules about hits, better guidelines for returning to play and more protective helmets. If this doesn't happen soon, even more retired football players will die in their 40s.

But we, the fans, are also to blame, as we indulge in the game and pay for its existence. The culture of violence needs to change; there can be no more headhunters, no more fans

cheering at bone-crushing hits. We need to stop buying the TV packages, gear and tickets, because without its main source of revenue, the NFL will have to institute change.

I love football as much as you do. But, change is needed, and we the fans need to create it. Helmets can only do so much, but if we, the fans of football stop indulging in the violence of football, we can change the game.

We, the fans of football, in order to keep the game alive, need to call on the NFL to change the game, so that the players are safe, so that there won't be any more Junior Seau's, and so that no more parents fear their sons will pay for a hit with their lives.

How do you think parents feel today when they see their sons lying on the ground after a brutal hit?

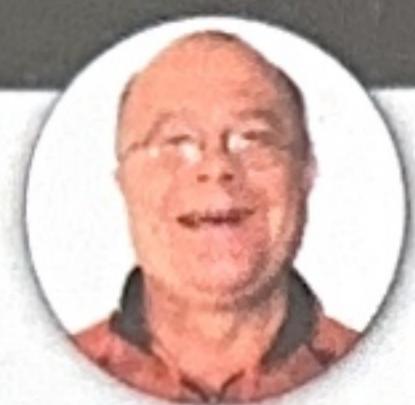
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Mike McCord.

The Singing Sub**MARCIABROWN**

A Shaker grad, substitute teacher Mike McCord was a jock in high school. Students know him as the teacher who sings when asked.

"I've always sung," McCord said. High school students like his vocals more than his middle school pupils do. McCord says it's fun for students and himself—especially while "biking and taking long walks." McCord's go-to song is "Danny Boy."

"When I was 11, I would sing on my Plain Dealer route," he said. Now, McCord sings for Shaker—and also with his singing family of Shaker grads.

Skip the Final?**JASMINE BERRY**

Students dread finals. Those who are unprepared panic, but those topping 100 percent don't need to worry. In January, freshman Will Goodall wrote his name on Sarah Davis' Global Studies semester exam and walked out without bubbling a letter. "My teacher just slapped her forehead and let me do it."

**Heard in the Halls**

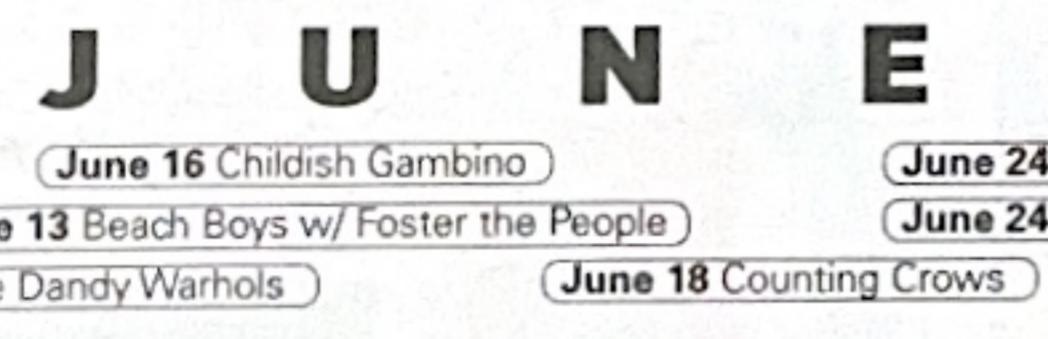
"His triceps are, like, bigger than my whole arm!"

May 12, 12:59 p.m.

"He's going around trying to grab nipples, but I got him good."

May 16, 3:14 p.m.

"Why you look so naked?"

May 17, 7:56 a.m.**Retrotech: Analog Clocks****MARCIABROWN**

The big hand counts the minute. The little hand indicates the hour. If you have a fancy clock, its thin, red hand represents the seconds.

The time on this clock is 11:00.

**Shaker Alumni Quiz****NATE LIVINGSTON**

Which alumnus:

1. made salad dressings?
2. plays for the Cincinnati Bengals?
3. is playing this summer's Warped Tour?
4. sang his way to the "American Idol" finals?
5. is now the producer of a hit CBS show?



Carter Bayes

1: Paul Newman 2: Nate Clements 3: Machine Gun Kelly 4: Scott Savo 5: Carter Bayes

This Should Be A Word**NATE LIVINGSTON****ABERZOMBIE**

(n.) A person who exclusively wears name-brand clothing. (urbandictionary.com)

It's not just a fad; the aberzombies are taking over the world one bite at a time.



SASHA RAE GRANT//THE SHAKERITE

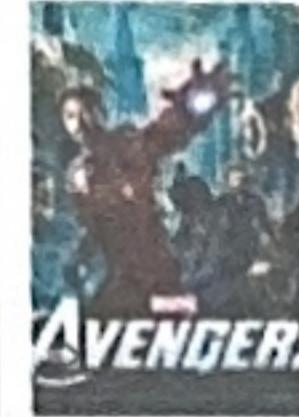
3-Second Reviews**ALEX RICH**

The Dictator



Not quite Borat.

The Avengers



Living up to expectations.

Dark Shadows



Witty, then weird.

One Page THE'SHAKERITE**How to Draw: Tuffy the Raider**

A step-by-step method to drawing with swag

WITH AUDREY ANDERLE



Step 1: "Use circles to make the body shape of the Raider."



Step 2: "Draw the outline. Erase all leftover lines."



Step 3: "Draw the inside parts of the Raider."

Your Favorite Senior Pranks**TAYLOR BUTZE**

Vending remotes	20%
Glitterbombing	5%
Stolen microwaves	10%
Vending lotion	10%
Sexy sax man	35%
Time (mag) for Kids	15%
H.S. Musical song	5%

Non-scientific survey of 20 hallway dwellers.

Raider Rant**H. WALKER EDWARDS**

Politics isn't a game. Gimmicks and cheap laughs don't win an election. I came to hear political discourse, not to be entertained. These elections mean a lot, and I won't have hooligans messing them up. Respect to all candidates, but if they're laughing they're not voting. Our candidates should be leader-like, tall, serious, and rich. It's what has worked in the past.

Really Quick Recipe

Water + freshly squeezed lemon juice + sugar + red food dye = pink lemonade.

**The Meh List****ALEX RICH**

- Siri
- Tebowing
- Paying in Trident Layers
- Converse sneakers
- Jeremy Lin
- Planking
- Colored duct tape

Summer Concerts

COMPILED BY SHANE McKEON

June 6 Radiohead

June 8 The Shins

June 2 Red Hot Chili Peppers

J U N E

June 16 Childish Gambino

June 13 Beach Boys w/ Foster the People

June 9 The Dandy Warhols

June 18 Counting Crows

June 24 Reel Big Fish

June 24 Phish

July 3 Death Cab For Cutie

J U L Y

July 9 Sleigh Bells

July 9 Youth Lagoon

July 11 Vans Warped Tour

Find a complete list of concerts at shakerite.com

July 19 Nicki Minaj

July 19 Beach House

July 24 Best Coast

THE SHAKERITE*May 29, 2012**Volume 83 // Issue 1*

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